

The Private Journal of the British Crosby Society.

THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY.

Hon. President.....Bing Crosby.
Hon. Vice-President...Larry Crosby.

Active President:-

Dorothy Hardiman,
Midland Bank Chambers,
120, High Street,
Smethwick, 41,
Staffs.

Vice-President:-

Frank Murphy,
15, Grosvenor Gardens,
High Howdon,
Wallsend,
Co. Northumberland.

Discologist:-

Colin Pugh,
29, Picton Street,
Montpelier,
Bristol, 6.

Honorary Members include:-

Ted Ray, Jack Buckanan, J.K. Wilson and Norman Wisdom.
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A FEW WORDS FROM DOT -

Hello Friends,

Owing to the fact that the May issue of "Post" reached you in June (the Railways fault, not ours) we decided it would be best to give you this double issue for June and July, and as the holiday season is here, another double issue in September. Hope this will be satisfactory.

I would like to thank those of you who complied with my request for prompt renewal of subscriptions - as a result of your co-operation we are able to give you a snap this time. It shows our boy proudly displaying a Dolly Varden trout - landed on a recent fishing trip in Elko - hope you like it, and grateful thanks to Larry Crosby for supplying the negative. I had hoped to have definite news of Bing's European vacation for you this time but a letter received from Bing on June 20th rather quashed this fond hope. He says - "It seems unlikely that I can visit Europe this year - at least not until the Fall (Autumn) in which event I shall be very happy to meet as many of the members as possible, my vacation has already started so I hope to play in a Golf Tournament at San Francisco, then visit the ranch at Elko, and rest awhile at Hayden Lake near our Hometown".

We are naturally very disappointed that Bing could not get here as he had planned, but we know he needs the rest and wish him a most enjoyable holiday. Keep your fingers crossed until Autumn.

One or two members have been quite active of late - Lil Williams had a letter published in the Evening Chronicle, Michael O'Toole in the "Radio Review", and Ted Laker has had two printed recently. Lil also received a card from the B.B.C. in reply to a request for 1/2-hour of "Bing Sings" instead of the usual 15 minutes. Her letter to the "Chronicle" went something like this:- "Sir I agree entirely with Mr. Humphries that it would be a good idea to have a showing of Bing Crosby's old films. Bing has a large number of fans in this country, we would appreciate it if cinemas generally, not just in one place would revive some of them". - We think this letter paves the way to another re-issue campaign. Older members will remember that the one we conducted in 1951 was highly successful in bringing some of the early Crosby Classics out of cold storage, so how about it? All you have to do is write in your local cinemas suggesting one of these films, or you could give them a list of several. Many managers are willing to book these old films for Sunday showing, and once they are out in circulation again they may be shown in the weekly programmes. Keep a list of the cinemas you write to and the films you ask for, and let me have this list at the end of August. I will help all I can at this end. It seems that our sister club in the States has the same idea and I am re-printing a letter sent in by one of their members. You can help Ellen, and our own campaign too by writing to Paramount as she suggests. For the benefit of our younger members who may not be familiar with the titles of these early films a list appears below.

While on the subject of Crosby films, you have probably read that the Maestro wishes to give up musicals and concentrate on serious films: He announced at the end of production of "Anything Goes" - that it was his last musical and his fans' last chance to see him croon in wide

screen colour with hundreds of wiggling chorines around him. Well Bingsters I don't know how you feel about this but I'm desolated !. Imagine !! No more "White Christmasses", "Blue-Skies" or "Holiday Inn's" - No more slick patter, straw-hat, or check suit, no more "Roads" to travel with Bing, Bob and Dot. My protest is already on it's way to Bing - How's yours ??.

Our congratulations and sincere good wishes for future success go to Gary Crosby who recently made his stage debut at the Chicago Theatre where he appeared with Louis Armstrong. To quote Ol'Satchmo himself -that Gary Crosby got it - He gonna knock them out of their seats, he got money in the Bank right now !".

With two weeks booking at 1000 dollars a day how could Gary help having money in the Bank; but fingering a wire from Crosby Senior, Gary says ruefully "Anything I can sing, dad can sing better".

Before concluding this Crostalk I would like to thank Pat Sullivan of Milwaukee for keeping us supplied with the very latest news of our boy, the club is fortunate indeed in having Pat on the spot, so to speak and we are grateful to her.

With the news that Doris Day wants Bing to co-star with her in a good story her Company has just bought, I'll close down.

Happy holidays to you all,
Bingcerely,
DOT.

SOME EARLY CROSBY FILMS

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Film.</u>	<u>Co.Star.</u>	<u>Hit Song.</u>
1938.-	Double or Nothing.	Mary Carlisle.	Smarty.
1941.-	Rhythm on the River.-	Mary Martin.	Only Forever.
1939.-	Paris Honeymoon.	Franciska Gall.	Your a Sweet Little Headache.
1938.-	Doctor Rhythm.	Mary Carlisle.	My Heart is Taking Lessons.
1937.-	Waikiki Wedding.	Martha Raye.	Sweet Leilani.
1936.-	Anything Goes.	Wthel Merman.	Sailor Beware.
1934.-	College Humour.	Mary Carlisle.	Learn to Croon.
1939.-	East Side of Heaven.-	Joan Blondel.	East Side of Heaven.
1937.-	Rhythm on the Range.-	Frances Farmer.	I'm an Old Cowhand.
1938.-	Sing you Sinners.	Ellen Drew.	Small Dry.
1945.-	Here Come the Waves.-	Betty Hutten.	Accentuate the Posi- tive.
1937.-	Pennies from Heaven.-	Madge Evens.	Pennies from Heaven.
Re-issued			
1954.	Down Memory Lane - which features a number of Bing Crosby's early Mack Sennet shorts, including "Blue of the Night", "Just One More Chance", and "I Surrender Dear".		

CROSBY TIT-BITS. - "Scrapbook Corner".

I SAW IT HAPPEN

"One day while my friends and I were going to school, a car stopped and a man asked us where a certain Church was. My friend and I looked again and saw it was Bing Crosby. After we told him, he asked us if we would enjoy a ride around the block. We were too thrilled to speak. But we got our ride and I'll never forget it.

Mary Malone, Chicago, Ill.

A BOB HOPE DEFINITION

There's not much difference between me and Crosby. I sing and kid around, Crosby sings and kids around. Only he's got more kids around.

The most prevalent and perennial Hollywood humour is that this or that Star has been killed. Bing Crosby especially. Studio Press Chiefs are continually being routed out of their beds in the wee small hours with gruesome details of the sudden death of the Studio's top Star.

Send us your favourite Tit-Bit for re-printing in "Scrapbook Corner".

The new musical-monthly "Teen and Twenty" printed the following Bing and Gary items in it's June Edition:

Bing Gets his own Show.

For so many years that its easier to say decades, the Bing Crosby Show has been an American Radio Standby. Now son Gary has his own Show - and your European and AFN Stations are carrying it.

It was only five years ago that Gary made his first professional appearance. That was on Bing's Show in 1950. Gary was then 16. In the intervening years Gary has become a popular Guest Star, and has made a name on records (with Louis Armstrong on 'Ko Ko Mo' for instance) now, on his own Show, the Gary Crosby career shifts into top gear.

CROSBY GROANS

Bing Crosby groaned publically last month when an Indo-Chinese Communist report came in that American Western Films caused delinquency there. "It beats me", drawled Crosby, "how one of our horse oprys could have a negative influence in an area ravaged by total war."

STAR PHOTOS for Sale.

1. 10/8 Bing Crosby -Autographed 1/6.	1. Postcard size- Nelson Eddy- 6d.
1. Ray Milland - 6d.	1. " " Tom Drake - 6d.
1. Postcard size- Bing Crosby- 6d.	1. " " Errol Flynn - 6d.
1. " - Tony Martin- 6d.	1. " " Walter Pidgeon-6d.
1. " Gary Cooper- 6d.	1. Snap Size- Patty Page - 4d.
1. " Humphrey Bogart- 6d.	1. " " Grace Kelly - 4d.
1. " Anita Louise.- 6d.	1. " " Robert Walker- 4d.
1. " Robert Taylor- 6d.	1. " " John McCullumn-4d.
1. " Sonja Henie - 6d.	

Please send a stamped addressed envelope and open P.O. or Stamps for any of the above to: Mrs. Lily Hooper, 39, Gascony Avenue,
West Hampstead, London, N.W.6.

Lily is devoting all proceeds from this wonderful effort to Club Funds. Thanks also Lily for the following article which we know our members will enjoy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR IRVING !

by Bing Crosby.

Man, how I envy you ! that's not a very attractive emotion to be discussing in a Birthday Greeting, I know, but in my case it is accompanied by respect, admiration, and affection, so I know that you'll forgive me.

I envy you not only for what you've done, which is immeasurable, but also for what you are still able to do. I really don't know, Irving, what birthday this is for you, but I do know you've got a little mileage on you. But you still have the boundless enthusiasm of a twelve-year old. I envy you, too, for the glorious accomplishments of the past - and incredible record of achievement. I think I would rather have written one such song as "Heat Wave", or "All Alone", "Remember", "When I Lost You" - Oh, any one of a thousand you have written - than have the pirates win the pennant. (Come to think of it. Not such a remote possibility. We beat the giants more than Cleveland did.)

A Birthday it seems to me, should be a time for taking stock, contemplating the past, and looking into the future and today this should be a pleasant chore for you and certainly a necessary one for music-lovers the world over, when they consider what you have given, are giving, and will continue to give, their gratitude must be considerable. Every singer, every musician, everyone who ever performed or sang your wonderful songs - and that takes a huge number of people must on your day say "Thank God for Irving Berlin", I know I do. After all, where would I be without "Blue Skies" or "Simple Melody" or "White Christmas". To mention a few. Many times I've come to the Studio, apathetic, dispirited, unhappy with my work and after five minutes listening to you demonstrate a song in your something less than adequate demifalsetto, your arms waving, and your eyes sparkling, I'm back in action again. The materials are always good I know, but its your enthusiasm that's so infectious and I've just got to go along with you, not only on your Birthday but every day. You wrote a song for me in "White Christmas" called "Count Your Blessings". The lyric says "When I'm weary and I can't sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep. And I fall asleep counting my blessings". Humbly asking your pardon - because I know full well how much you dislike having even one note or one syllable of your songs altered or tampered with - I want to

amend this Lyric a little and apply it to you. It should go as follows:-

"On your Birthday if you feel blue
Just check with me and I'll sure tell you
That I count on you when counting my blessings".

This doesn't read too impressively, I know, Irving, but when we talk over the telephone I will be happy to fit it to the lovely melody you wrote for the original song, or I will have Gary sing it for you - he says he's grateful to you, too, for "simple melody".

Author's Note--

The above Lyric is the property of the author, Bing Crosby, and any use by any person or persons in application to anyone but Irving Berlin will be considered a violation of Copyright.

From "Town and Country Magazine" . December 1954.

THANKS NORMAN - A Tribute to NORMAN WISDOM by Arthur Groves.

I'm not likely to forget Friday April 15th 1955 in a hurry, because on that date a wonderful thing happened, or rather two things happened to make it a memorable day in my life. Let me tell you about it.

As some of you know, I am at times employed by British Film Studios, but prior to the 15th, they had not required my services for many weeks. That morning I received two letters, one from my Union asking me to report to Nettlefold Studios, the other from Pinewood Studios in connection with my "Dream for Sale" number which had been submitted to them by Norman Wisdom, they wanted to use the song in Norman's new film "Man of the Moment". You can imagine how I felt as I made my way to Pinewood that afternoon, Norman was wonderful, he explained that a number had been specially written for a certain scene in the Film but that he liked my song best and was determined to get it in somehow. To cut a long story short Norman finally had his way and words just cannot express my gratitude, he really went out of his way to help and encourage me. Of all the Stars I have encountered during my work for the Studios, a more nicer, or unassuming person than Norman Wisdom I have yet to meet, so once again "thanks a lot Norman", whatever the future may bring I shall never forget that I owe my first real break to you and I'll be eternally grateful - Sincerely yours - Arthur Groves.

FOOTNOTE - Arthur sends best wishes to readers of "Crosby Post" and hopes to have the pleasure of meeting some of his fellow members in the not too distant future.

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GARY KNOWS ITS A TOUGH JOB - Reprint from "Downbeat".
Reporter - Jay Stanley.

Hollywood - young Gary Crosby who doesn't hesitate to say "Yes" when asked if he hopes to follow in his dad's footsteps, has taken a big step in that direction by signing his first individual contract as an exclusive Decca recording artist.

While there was never much doubt that his first contract would be with Decca, since Crosby Senior virtually put it in business, it's no secret that other companies, hopeful of having a Crosby in their catalogues - and a promising one - were making an all-out try.

Gary is a young man with plenty of self-assurance; a pleasing, honest unaffected air of modesty with no sign of cockiness.

He gives the impression that he is quite aware of the fact that as Bing Crosby's son opportunities have fallen into his lap that only years of struggle, plus extraordinary luck, would have brought to another.

However, he seems equally aware of the fact that from here on, he's going to be very much on his own - that he will have to measure up professionally to his opportunities. Regarding his first recording sessions under the Decca contract he said:-

"We are leaving everything up to Mr. (Sonny) Burke for final decisions. We haven't selected the songs yet. My father will be consulted, but now that I'm started, he will not be exercising direct authority. He has complete confidence in Mr. Burke, Mr. Morrow (Bill Morrow, long-time Crosby Script Writer and right-hand man who is sitting as managerial helper for Garry) and others who are helping me.

Regarding his musical career he was explicit:-

"Right now my only aim is to be a good singer, like my father, sir, and if I can win just a small portion of the following and respect he has won, I'll be doing very well. Of course there is one thing I would like

very much. I would like to win at least on "Down Beat" Poll, and be able to put my palque up there on the wall with all those "Down Beat" plaques he won. That would make him very happy too, sir."

Bing Crosby took first place in the male singer division of the "Down Beat" readers Poll from 1938 to 1940 and again in 1944 and 1945 for a total of five triumphs.

That's just one of the marks young Gary has to shoot at.

CROSBY POST presents the Final Instalment of -

"MY FOUR SONS AND ME" by BING CROSBY.

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- some people tell me that the banter that goes on among the kids is inherited from the old man. I remember Lin's comment once on Gary's singing. "Don't tell me", he said, "that Gary sings any better than the rest of us. Just louder, that's all!". About one thing, though, I guess I don't have a sense of humor, money I want my boys to know the value of it and of possessions too, rather than simply to accept what they get without appreciating it. I want them to be aware of the consequences if they fritter away what they have. Each of my boys has a Trust fund that will provide for him handsomely for the rest of his life without another stroke of work. But I want them to understand that a dollar today is worth 36 cents it doesn't buy as much as it did in Pop's day, but it still is a dollar, and no easier to come by. I must say they don't seem to have missed the point. Some years ago for example I deposited their summer earning as spending money for them at school. It amounted to \$380 each. Three-quarters of the way through the school year not one of them had used up more than \$80. I told one of my brothers what I had spent in the same time, and he was startled and impressed - "You can learn a little of what you're teaching them" he commented, and I might say that I have. I've never been over worried about the illnesses of my growing sons. They are the illnesses of all children ranging from a billious headache to the normal setbacks. Whatever they had, measles, a hacking cough, poison ivy; I've managed to treat it lightly, even if deep down I was sometimes fretful. They have been remarkable, and I suspect most parents will agree that my calmness has helped them through some of their sicknesses. I did break my worry rule last May, though when Gary was involved in an accident in San Jose, a car came out of the side road unexpectedly, with a tragic result that a man was killed and Gary ended up in hospital with bruises, contusions, shock, and many stitched in his nose. When I wrote my book, 'Call Me Lucky', I said among other things that one of my biggest mistakes I ever made was to give Gary a car as a High School graduation present. When he got the car his studies went to pot. I took the car away temporarily, and Dixie spoke sternly to him. A lot of people once again felt I was too strict in my disciplining. Perhaps the gift of the car was an over-generous and not too sound idea, because most youngsters don't know how to handle a car properly. I regretted deeply the accident last May, but I couldn't condemn Gary. I knew he wasn't to blame. He happened to be in the right. He was driving carefully and safely. Even so the death of the man shocked and grieved him, and I think it will teach him to be doubly careful. One story I'll always remember in connection with one of the boy's illnesses. A hammy director was always over dramatizing things. One night another director found him stalking about nervously in the gark near the studio and asked what was wrong, "my dear chap", said the Ham in tragic tones, "My wife underwent surgery today". The other director sympathised appropriately, and asked, "How is she feeling?". The Ham made a gracefully studies gesture ! then he said, "hovering, just hovering". To this he added briskly, "By the way, do you have an extra seat for the Fights tonight ?". Well, the boys loved that story. The clincher came two years later, when Lin wound up in Hospital with spotted fever. He had been unconscious several days. When the fever finally broke, I asked anxiously, "How do you feel Lin,?" "Hovering", he said with a feeble grin. "Just Hovering". I suppose none of us really appreciated the extent of Dixie's influence on all of us until she died. She was always a wise and loving mother whose honesty was always unclouded. We could always count on her for the truth about ourselves, and I'd just be stupid if I didn't realise that some of the maternal wisdom that came the way of the Crosby men wasn't meant for me, too. How many times for instance would I find that I

had lectured the kids ineffectually and then have her say teasingly, "you've got your audiences fooled but not them huh?". Her influence on them was always felt, and not a day passed when one of the boys wasn't wondering if his mother would approve his decisions on a matter of vital importance - anything from taking up with a new friend to a book he wanted to read. She and I were proud of our home, and very early we decided to be one family that would really live in it's living room. Eight foot sofas made a fireside chat a family affair and our wall-to-wall carpeting actually consisted of three rugs which could be rolled back for Dancing. But what made our house different from what people might expect was the complete absence (and I insisted on it) of haphazard music making. Just as it was never the Headquarters for composers and writers at work, song pluggers demonstrating the latest tunes, or even the old man exercising his pipes. It was also not a gathering place for Crosby's trying to outdo each other with noisy musical instruments. The boys were made to respect the idea that there's a time and a place for everything. All of us seemed to enjoy the Bedtime Stories which I tried to make as educational as imaginative. My versions of Snow White or Don Quixote were modern with real names and real incidents thrown in. One evening Father Concannon our priest from Good Shepherd Church was present during a story hour. "Bing" he asked me, what are you trying to prove? What are you trying to put into these boys?". I remember grinning, because this wonderful man knew the answer as well as I did. "Knowledge" I said. "The Old Crosby touch", "Casual stuff". Later, I heard he had paid me a compliment, "Bing's got a good idea, he told one of the other priests, "He's teaching his boys just the way he sings a song - effortless". Religion is one side of our life we don't treat casually. With or without me, when I'm away or abroad, the boys will all go to Mass on a Sunday and to Communion as often as possible. Religiously, their position and their future is clear. It is my prayerful hope that their faith will be the comfort and support to them that it has been to me; that through the observance of their religious obligations the groundwork has been laid for a happy upright life; and that when they are of age and making their own decisions they will move in accordance with the teaching of our Church. I know and I think my boys' know it too, that this is probably the most critical time of their lives. Now that their mother has gone and there's just a housekeeper at home they require more care and more attention. For one thing they have to face the facts that many of their roots are being torn up. The big house in Holmby Hills, where we were together for so long, may have to go. So will the pebble beach home overlooking the Golf Course. In their place we'll have a small house in Hayden Lake, Idaho, where we have had such wonderful times together. And, of course, we'll always have the ranch. One of the problems that faces me today as a father is girls. Girls wish to meet my sons, and they wish to meet girls. I am not going to stand in their way. Like any normal boys, my four are fully conscious that there's another sex - not only conscious but interested. My rule is that I have to meet any girl they wish to go out with. I hope, as Dixie did, that they will do their entertaining in a sensible fashion. I am against the freedom that leads to petting in automobiles. My kids can have the run of the house, and they can entertain their friends there. I want to know where they are. I also want to be around if one of the boys gets serious with a girl. I sent my mother and sister abroad this past summer, and I had been looking forward to joining them, but then suddenly I realized that I'd be gone while the boys were out of school on vacation. So I cancelled my plans. It wasn't just a possibility of a romance; I figured too that the boys shouldn't be home two months without anyone to look after them. There's one more thing I'd like to discuss, because it has a bearing on my relationship with my sons. There have been all kinds of rumours about my getting married again. I know that the newspaper has to print something, but when it comes to romantic plans involving me I wish they would drop it. Not so long ago I told my mother "Don't worry about all these stories. I am not getting married now and I haven't any plans for getting married. I may never marry again, and if I do you will be the first to know". We were talking about the boys the other day, an old friend and I, he asked what I honestly thought I had given them. "They are honest trustworthy and considerate of other people", I began. "They've come to realise the value of time. Expect Ed home at 11; they're home. It wasn't always that way. They have learned the value of money, often do without things in order to save. They show complete respect but they haven't lost their

young sense of humour, and they don't lie". Now, I don't want anyone to think I figure these four are little tin saints. Far from it. But they're all right and if I can get them through these difficult years they are going to be useful citizens until I can convince the boys that they are going to get out of life just what they put into it I won't feel that my job has been done. I told them once that as a parent I'm run-of-the-mill. I don't want them to extol the virtues of my fatherhood or its failings. I started to go on but Phil interrupted, "that's right" he said "A Crosby who takes himself seriously is a dead duck". I sat back and smiled for I knew then that I was in the groove. And once again I had that strange suspicion that all five of us were learning.

THE END.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM OUR DISCOLOGIST, COLIN.

In addition to the 78 R.P.M. Dubbings offered in our April issue, I can also offer the following L.P.'s as follows, which will prove far more economical to the purchaser:

The following complete half-hour Bing Crosby programmes are available on 10" 33-1/3rd R.P.M. microgroove recordings, at 20/- each, or individual songs may be had at 78 R.P.M. or in groups on L.P.

Guests: Tommy Dorsey, Joe Venuti, Teresa Brewer.

1. Songs : Shanghai, Diane, Lady Be Good, I Apologise, Bonne Nuit.

Guests: Helen O'Connell, The Bell Sisters.

2. Songs : Blacksmith Blues, Please Mr. Sun, Any Time, Wheel of Fortune.

Guests: Bert Wheeler, Alexis Smith.

3. Songs : Over a Bottle of Wine, Domino, (Comic Advent Songs) Woof Dog Fodd.
Peeka Boo Com-

4. Guests: Hopalong Cassidy, Monica Lewis. any.

Songs : Sleigh Ride, When the World was Young, Silver on the Sage.

Guests: Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald.

5. Songs : Jamboree Jones, Memphis Blues, A Kiss to Build a Dream on.

Guests: Jerry Lewis, Dean Martin.

6. Songs : Misto Cristoforo, Colombo, Just One More Chance, A Kiss to Build
a Dream on.

Guests: Anna Maria Alberatti, Paul Douglas.

7. Songs : In the Cool of the Evening, Shanghai, Because of You.

Guests: Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall.

8. Songs : Sailing Down the Chesapeake Bay, Sin, It Had to Be You, Twinkle
Deedle Dum.

Guests: Mills Brothers - Patti Page.

9. Songs : Anytime, All the World is Waiting for the Sunrise, Till We Meet
Again.

Guests: David Niven, Teresa Brewer.

10. Songs : The Noodlin' Rag, I Can't Give you Anything But Love Baby,
I'll Walk Alone.

11. Guests: Bob Hope, Martha Tilton.

Songs : Bright Eyes, Hello Young Lovers, On Top of Old Smokey.

12. Guests: Fran Warren, Jimmy Stewart.

Songs : It Had to Be You, Row Row Row, Mississippi Mud.

You'll find Colin's address on Page 1 of this issue, write to him regarding the above items, and also for lists of other non-commercial Bing items he has available. By the way Colin's Phone No. is Bristol 23604.

STOP PRESS - Introducing our new feature.

"REQUESTS OF THE MONTH".

In an effort to boost Bing's newer recordings we are introducing this new feature to members of our society. With each issue of Post we shall name two of Bing's popular recordings and we request that you send your requests for these recordings to your favourite Radio Station. We ask you to support this new feature in full strength and so give Bing a much needed boost, to the best selling record charts. Your requests this month are:

(1) Bing Crosby and The Andrews Sisters - "Cool Water"

2. Bing Crosby - "Jim, Johnny, and Jonas".

We also suggest that you concentrate your requests on the following stations: The B.B.C. Family Favourites and "Housewife's Choice"; and the Radio Luxemburg and A.F.N. Request Programmes.

It seems we have an abundance of talent in our "Crosby Society". Mrs. Elizabeth Proctor is an Aerial Artiste - Part of a Troupe, (The Nevadas) now appearing at Chessington Zoo, Surrey. Elizabeth cordially invites members to look in on her at any time, you will find her trailer at the back of the circus. She leads a very full and exciting life and is going to tell us something about it in a future edition of "Post". Meanwhile 'Liz' as she prefers to be called, sends us a line or two from her favourite piece of literature.

"I do not care how long a man may live, in one sense he should never grow old. If we get out of touch with our world we cease to be any use in it, and I have always believed that the best way of keeping abreast of our times is to keep in touch with youth. End. P.T.O. Thank you Liz for the above gem of quotations. May we wish you much success, and tell you how much we look forward to hearing more about your exciting life.

The latest News about 'GARY CROSBY'.

Thank you sincerely, Pat Sullivan of Milwaukee, U.S.A., for the following right up to date news about Bing's son, Gary.

Milwaukee Sentinel - May 31, 1955.

Ol Satchmo's High on Teamate Gary by Tom Uyemura.

Chicago May 30th - "He can make with the riffs, man! That's the way you're supposed to skat."

Those were the glowing words of praise showered on Bing Crosby's son Gary, by one of the world's greatest trumpet players and jazz singers Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong.

Gary, the only one of Bing's four sons who is following in his father's footsteps, and the old pro. Satchmo, opened a 14 day engagement this week-end at the Chicago Theatre.

Does Just Right.

What Armstrong meant in his hep phrases was that Gary can take off a song with the best of them and does everything just right. The 21 year old Gary was equally fervant in his praise of the Dean of Jazz, men with whom he has been paired in his first appearance before a big live audience. He said "Working with Armstrong is like finishing school. He's the greatest I feel all aglo when I get into a song with Satchmo". He confided that the rotund trumpeter already has given him one of the secrets of his "Blow 'em Down" type of Jazz singing. "I had a sore throat for the opening show, and I told Louis about it," said the blonde crew-cut Gary. "Well Ol Satchmo got me his special concoction of a honey and glycerine and gave me a swig. My throat warmed up right away. I relaxed and really felt like singing." Gary who made his first professional solo broadcast on his Dad's Radio Show in 1950 when he was 16, has a flare for comedy similar to the non-chalant delivery of his famous father.

He gained a natural, warm laugh from his audience with lines such as: "I don't guess any of you remember my father - he was a great pal of Davy Crockett".

Jazz at it's Best.

The phrasing, rhythm and punctuation which Gary and Satchmo get into their songs is Jazz singing and mugging at it's best. Armstrong said: "Gary's got what it takes. We rehearse once and he's got it. Even if I ad lib a lyric, he's right there throwing it back at me".

Satchmo, who made his first picture with Bing in 1936 when Gary was three, has since made hundreds of Radio appearances and records with the old groaner.

When asked to compare Bing's voice with Gary's Armstrong said sacredly, "Bing's voice has a mellow quality that only Bing's got - it's like gold being poured out of a cup". He continued: "But Gary has qualities that Bing doesn't have and he's just like the old man with his natural rhythm and feel for comedy and song". Almost proudly, Satchmo said: "No one can imitate my singing like Gary. When he gets that gravel rattling way down deep, it's almost like hearing myself sing". The stocky young singer predict a great future for him. With Gary's star on the rise, maybe der Bingle can put in an order for Texas.

Gary Crosby - Contd.

Kups Column - Chicago Sun Times - May 27, 1955.

The Passing Parade.

Gary Crosby using his Old Man's leisurely stroll as he ambles down State Street to the Chicago Theater, where he makes his stage debut Friday with Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong- and reminding old-timers of the last time Der Bingle made a personal appearance at a Theater in town. It was 25 years ago at the Oriental.

.....

And now Pat Sullivan's Personal Letter which you'll find very interesting indeed.

Hi there, regarding Gary, mustn't forget to tell you about my seeing him again. He's appearing with Louis Armstrong at the Chicago Theater for two weeks, so I went to see them last Saturday. Golly but he's terrific ! His mannerisms are incredibly like Bing's, and since slimming down, he's really quite handsome. He soloed 3 numbers, chatted a bit, read a telegram from Bob Hope and introduced Louis Armstrong. The duets those two did in which Gary mimicked Louie's singing style really brought on the applause. No doubt about it, he's good !

Bing made a surprise television appearance on Bob Hope's Show a week ago. He wasn't on long and didn't sing, but it was good just seeing him again. Hope showed clips of the various "Road" films on the programme.

Gary did his second T.V. Show several Sundays ago - a very successful appearance on Ed.Sullivan's Show. While talking to Ed.he took a pipe out of his pocket. He was probably just holding it for moral support, but it was a cute gesture.

I've probably already mentioned this, but all of Bing's Boys were home for his birthday this year. They threw a big party for him. Phil was home on leave and Denny surprised Bing by getting a furlough in time for the party too. It must have been a very nice birthday for him with all his family there.

There has been quite a stir over an article in which Bing stated he'd like to sing in a Night Club with a small band again. Immediately he received over 300 offers from all over the country.

And that's all for now from Pat.

PERSONALLY SPEAKING BY FRANK.

It strikes me that we Bing fans have a lot to be thankful for. I mean, we can go to the cinema, or listen to radio, and even watch T.V. and the chances are we can nearly always find something to remind us of our Star, Bing. For example, I turned our radio on this morning to listen in to "Housewife Choice" and guess what the very first record was ? Bing Crosby singing "Dearly Beloved", I especially enjoyed hearing Bing sing this old classic, which is a great favourite of mine. On our off duty we can sit at home and listen to our personal Bing collections. Playing such classic Crosby tunes as "Goodnight Sweetheart" "Learn to Croon", "Cabin in the Pines", which incidentally is my favourite Crosby Cowboy song. How many happy hours have you spend in this way ? We are indeed lucky in this age of Johny Ray's Frankie Laing and many other top liners going the rounds, to find Bing still very much a household name. This alone is proof of his greatness. I often wonder what would be the result if Bing were to decide to play the Palladium. What unparalleled scenes of show business hysteria would be evoked by the sound of the fabulous Crosby voice lilting across that famous theatre.

The auditorium of this must be the hope and dream of every Bing Fan. Well you never know, some day we may be lucky - let's keep our fingers crossed anyway.

T.V.-RADIO by Walter Ames - Los Angeles Times, Jan.3rd, 1955.

Before this New Year gets any older, I better mention some of the younger new names who appear certain for a lot of radio work this coming year. Certainly it should be a banner year for the Crosby's, Linkletters and Clooneys. These three families seem to be establishing a youth movement all their own. Object at point: a place in the entertainment world beside their world famous elders. Prospects: crew-cut Lindsay Crosby, Football-playing Jack Linkletter, and Curly-Haired, Doll-Playing Gail Clooney; 16,18, and 9 years old respectively. Lindsay, youngest of the four Crosby offspring, is following his big brother Gary into Radio. Intimates say he is the son who most nearly approaches the groaner in

voice and mannerisms. Bing bringing his brood along slowly, plans several guest and singing solo spots for Lindsay, who says: "Since he was so little he had to stand on a box to reach the mike, Lin has a great sense of rhythm and a wonderful delivery of a ballad----- he could be great."

EDITOR'S NOTE.

CLUB RAFFLE.

We had hoped to publish the result of our raffle in this issue, but I'm sorry to have to report that only 11 members have supported our worthy effort, I'm sure you will realise we cannot draw the raffle in view of this lack of support. We have decided to hold the raffle open for a further 10 days from the date you receive this edition of "Crosby Post".

When applying for tickets please follow the same instructions I gave in our May issue.

I must confess I'm somewhat dismayed by the lack of interest displayed. I had expected you would have been delighted at this opportunity to "try your luck" and at the same time give your "Crosby Society" Funds a boost from the lower depths.

The raffle result will be published in our September issue.

THANKS A LOT - Dorothea Withersden for your 5/- Donation to Club Funds.

PEN-FRIENDS. In our Sept. "Crosby Post" we shall be re-introducing our Pen-Friends section. We invite members who'd like to be included on this page to send us their names, etc.,

COLIN PRESENTS-

THE CROSBY WAXWORKS.

At this time of the year, and for the next couple of months at least, new releases of records in general are at a very low ebb. The long light evenings and the summer sunshine (hmm ! as I write this its pouring with rain) causes a disinclination in most of us to stay indoors, and a greater tendency to outdoor diversions. Record manufacturers, with their finger ever on the pulse of the Record buying public, realise this, hence, a far more modest volume of new issues than the normal winter output. This in turn, regulates the number of new Bing Crosby platters which become available, with the result that at the time of writing, there are only three discs to review, two of which were advised in the last "Post".

Firstly is the Brunswick 78/45 issue on 05419, "Ohio"/ "Quiet Girl". Two good sides combining to make an excellent disc and one which will receive its fair share of playing time on our turntables, I feel sure. "Ohio" is a slow, lilting number in which Bing first sings a full chorus solo, then he is joined by Jud Conlon's Rhythmairs on the second chorus. Citing Ohio as "home", Bing does a very pleasing vocal, entirely free of anything harsh or forced.

The backing, "A Quiet Girl" is from the same show "Wonderful Town", and for my choice is even better than "Ohio". Its a really delightful tune which Bing sings slowly and with such a soothing voice that he actually leaves you with a mental picture of his "quiet girl". Both in orchestration and voicing, this song forcibly reminds me of an earlier recording of Bing's - "Eileen".

The next recording is the Extended Play OE 9103 which I listed last month. Under the single title "PEACE AND BLESSING", this is, as one might suppose, strictly a religious recording, made for the cause of Fr. Junipero Serra. To review such a work as a recording striving for recognition in the commercially competitive sense, might rightly be considered as sacrilegious, and would in any case be a wrong approach, admitting of having missed the whole point of its inception. For its entertainment value, leave it on the shelves of your dealer. But for all else it has to offer, this is without a doubt a most moving example of this type of work, and Bing's first representation in this medium. With an impeccable sense of timing, expression and phrasing he shows us the beauty of the spoken word. Quoting from the very tastefully designed Record Envelope:

BING CROSBY voices here a message which cannot help but captivate the listener's heart; a message of peace and blessing. In his long musical career such favourites as ADESTE FIDELIS and WHITE CHRISTMAS mark him as a man devoted to peace. This record upholds this claim, for he now speaks the very words of Saint Francis. End of quote.

On side 1. we hear "The Peace Prayer of St. Francis". To a musical background Bing recites the Prayer with the choristers giving vocal support. Then the choristers sing the Prayer and the solo voice of Fr. Lorenzo is heard. Bing joins in the finale of the Prayer. "The Blessing of St. Francis" on Side 2., opens with the Choristers, then Bing, in the guise of St. Francis inspired by God, speaks firstly to his Brothers, then to the Birds, then to the Wolf, then to All Mankind and lastly, to the Rulers of the World. This narration is interspersed by short solos by Morales.

Variety is the spice of life, and to now review the last issue to hand this month, is to pass straight from the sublime to the ridiculous. Never-the-less, this 78/45 release on 05430 is very welcome, giving us good entertainment on both sides and excellent on the one side.

In comedy vein, Bing changes his voice (you'll hardly recognise it at first) and in a plaintive, high-pitched, negro voice, gives out with "Nobody" to the apt accompaniment of John Scott Trotter's Orchestra. This number is rather on the lines of "I Still Suits Me", or it could be the sequel to one that Bing didn't record - "Life Gets Tee-Jus Don't It". Nearly twelve months ago I heard rumours that with Bing's semi-retirement causing a shortage of his recordings for issue, plans were afoot to cut songs done on his many Radio Broadcasts which must have all been taped at the time. To pick out the many good vocals recorded in this manner and make them available on discs is a simple enough operation, especially to recording studios. Now a short while back when we had that spate of recordings issued on which Bing was accompanied by Buddy Cole at the piano, some collectors thought these were taken from his Air Shows. But I argued against this because no sound of the audience was present, there was no clapping and although clapping after the conclusion of the vocal and orchestra, can be cut out, the audience always commence clapping on the last one or two bars of the music, and this of course, cannot be cut out afterwards. I mention this now because "Nobody" is Bing's first issue (in this country at least) of a disc recording with an audience present. Gusts of laughter may be heard during the vocal and clapping at the end. Although I cannot report it officially, I should hazard a guess that this was taken from one of his Radio Shows. If this is so, I must say that the quality of reproduction leaves nothing to be desired, and the presence of the audience helps to detract from the "canned music" impression that one always gets from a disc on which the bare recorded matter is accompanied by a deathly silence. "Nobody" could become reasonably popular in its class for I notice the B.B.C. are giving it some airing.

To complete a good "double" Bing comes up with easily the best version of a really delightful tune which is steadily creeping nearer the Top 20 - "Jim, Johnny and Jonas". Its title would tell you nothing, but actually we are treated to a song in waltz tempo with an Hawaiian flavour. On this side Bing is very ably supported by Chorus and Orchestra directed by Ken Darby. The Chorus is excellent but I would have preferred the musical backing to have been orchestrated more in the traditional Hawaiian manner, instead of a solitary guitar vainly trying to create the atmosphere alone. Of course, this is being hypercritical because the over-all effect is still very pleasing. Briefly, the song is that sung by three Hawaiian maids on the beach at Hawaii, for their lovers who are away. This type of song is always a good medium for Bing and is sure to prove popular with all his "faithful followers".

THE END.

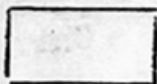
And now Bing Fans we must round up this edition of "Crosby Post"; we hope you'll make a note of the suggestions we've given you, and that you'll do your bit to help us in our "Boost Bing" Campaign. It's most important that every one of you does as we've requested. Also don't forget to write and tell us what you think about "Post" and any ideas too, you have for improvements.

Until August we'll say: Cheerio, sincere good wishes to you all, from--

DOT - COLIN - FRANK.

RENEWAL REMINDER--

An 'X' here, indicates that your subscription has expired, and is due for re-newal:-



NEWS FROM PARAMOUNT PRODUCTION NEWS-

February 7th 1955.

THE WHEEL OF CHANCE - AND BING CROSBY

The wheel of chance takes some strange turns.

A quarter of a century ago, Bing Crosby, Al Rinker and Harry Harris - the Rhythm Boys - had left Paul Whiteman and were in Seattle looking for work. Bing wrote a letter to a Hollywood agent asking him if he could get them a job - almost any job - in California.

The agent finally placed them at Eddie Branstatter's Montmartre Cafe in Los Angeles, then a favourite rendezvous of the film colony and the place where Bing met his late wife, Dixie Lee. During their stay there, the Rhythm Boys amicably changed agents and the boys lost official touch with the man who took them to Hollywood. The trio later went to the Cocoanut Grove, where Bing first attained real stature as a solo singer with the band of Gus Arnheim, who died suddenly a short time ago.

Now Bing is at the top of a new career. He is being hailed as a fine dramatic actor for his performance in "The Country Girl", a performance that many people believe will win him an Academy "Oscar".

It is a long time since 1930.

And the agent who first took him to Hollywood has also attained prominence in another field. He is William Perlberg, the motion picture producer. He produced "The Country Girl".

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PERSONALITY ITEM.

THE DIRECT APPROACH.

In Paramount's "Anything Goes", Jeanmair, the ballerina, plays a French girl who meets and falls in love with Bing Crosby, a Broadway star, while crossing the Atlantic to America on an ocean liner. She is very direct in her approach and tells Bing she loves him.

A little bewildered by her frankness, Bing says:

"In America a girl figures out ingenious ways not to let a man know she likes him".

With a shrug of her shoulders, she replies:

"You must have much time to waste in America".

.....

HEY GANG !!!

I'M MAD !!!

WHY ???

G R R R R

There is no Crosbyer Crosby Fan than I, but it seems he was around when I was too young to appreciate him. Now, my older sister is constantly telling me of all the good movies I've missed..

"Going Hollywood" when he first sang "Temptation"... "She loves me Not" when he crooned "Love in Bloom" to Kitty Carlisle and "Here is My Heart" when to the same lady he sang "June in January". "Mississippi" with "Easy to Remember" and "soon" among other great tunes.. "We're Not Dressing" when he treated lovely Carole Lombard rough and made her love it, in the meantime singing "Love Thy Neighbor" and "May I?"..

These are the ones I always hear about and I am getting pretty tired just hearing about them, I want to see them.. Surely I am not alone in this wish?? My sister would love to see them again as would a lot more, I'll bet. The older ones and the younger, like me' (and a lot of you) who haven't seen them yet.. any suggestions as to how we could induce Paramount to reissue them?? I have written several times to no avail but maybe if all you kids did, we could make them sit up and take notice.

Well, How about it !?. Is it worth a try ???

Bing-cerely

Miss Ellen McCabe, 3746 W. 70th Place,
Chicago 28, III.

With acknowledgments to
"Bingang" private Journal of
America's "Club Crosby".